

at time of Dr. Hankins' resignation (5 yrs + 2 mo)  
310 1/2 additions - 1192 new converts and  
2019 conversions outside of church

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

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And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

## The Scarlet Sin --- ADULTERY

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

"THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY" — EXODUS 20:14

Any Bible preacher can preach on the scarlet sin, adultery, without apology, since the Bible deals so frankly and so repeatedly with the subject. In Genesis we have the story of the Sodomites, the incest of Lot with his two daughters, Judah's sin with his daughter-in-law, the attempted seduction of Joseph by Potiphar's wife, the ruin of Dinah by the young prince of Shechem and the curse on Reuben because he went up to his father's bed. The Mosaic law in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy has repeated instructions about the punishment of the scarlet sin. It is placed in the Ten Commandments both in Exodus and in Deuteronomy.

Throughout the Bible God's Holy Spirit deals plainly with this sin. In Joshua we have the story of Rahab the harlot. Judges tells how Samson, a judge of Israel, went to see a fallen woman. First Samuel gives the sad story of David's sin with Bath-sheba, and the Scripture tells how there followed the rape, of his daughter, Tamar.

In the New Testament Jesus repeatedly discussed the scarlet sin. Again and again he preached to "this adulterous generation." He gave fornication as the only legitimate reason for a divorce.

Romans tells of the degeneration by which much of the race became savages, enduring the curse of God because of sex perversion. The Epistles give warning after warning against fornication, adultery, chambering and wantonness. The book of Revelation tells of the horrible plagues of the tribulation, partly in judgment on great Babylon for her fornications and adulteries. And then finally, after a glorious picture of Heaven, we are plainly warned that whoremongers and adulterers are outside.

It is manifest, then, that honest preachers who profess to preach what is in the Bible or to follow the example of prophets and apostles and of Jesus Christ Himself, must preach on this scarlet sin.

There are abundant reasons why such preaching is needed. First,

millions of people have no idea how horrible the sin is in God's sight. If they knew how God regards it, and if their consciences were enlightened, many of them would never go into this sin. Second, if preachers preached the horrible judgments of God upon this sin, many would fear it and avoid it, even though they did not love God. And, third, and more important yet, honest Bible preaching on sin creates an acute consciousness of God, leads to conviction for sin and repentance. Every great revival must have honest dealing with the sin question. There is no use of preaching grace to people who do not know that they have ever sinned. God's commands about adultery may be called a part of the law, but the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ" (Gal. 3:24).

Some will object that the language is too plain. But we are exhorted to "utter by the tongue words easy to be understood" (1 Cor. 14:9). In the revival in Ezra's day we are told, "So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading" (Nehemiah 8:8). If Bible preachers like Jesus, and John the Baptist and Paul, and Stephen, and

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## Dr. Joe Henry Hankins Becomes Evangelist

Leaves Great First Baptist Church,  
Little Rock, for the Still Larger  
Work of Revivals

BY THE EDITOR

In this issue of *The Sword of the Lord* you will find the blessed sermon, "A Charge Before God," by our beloved brother, Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Little Rock, Arkansas. From time to time we have printed a good many of the fervent gospel sermons of our much loved and anointed brother. And today I received a letter from this dear friend containing the great news that he was answering the call of God, laid so long and heavily on his heart, to give himself to full-time revival work as an evangelist. Praise the Lord!

I have dedicated myself to prove, under God, that big-scale revival campaigns such as those where Moody, Torrey, Chapman, and Sunday preached to enormous crowds and hundreds and thousands were saved, are possible again in this generation. As God is my witness I feel continually burdened over the need the Saviour expressed when He said, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2). I have been praying that God would send out evangelists. I had many times prayed, asking God if He would not send out Dr. Hankins as a full-time evangelist. I have been many times on the point of writing, urging him to this course, but hesitated and prayed. And now that prayer is answered.

Dr. Hankins is already an evangelist, and in fact has been an evangelist all through his ministry. Some months ago I saw a report of his church, when he had been with them four years and eight months. In that short time the First Baptist Church at Little Rock, the largest and most influential in the state, I believe, had received 1165 new converts for baptism and church membership and 1667 had united with the church by letter or statement, making a total of 2832 members added to the church in four years and eight months! That means that through the years his church had an average of 11 2/3 new members every week, winter and summer, and of these approximately five each week were new converts just won to Christ whom Dr. Hankins baptized. When a pastor baptizes 264 converts every year and has an average of 586 new members each year, including those coming by letter and by statement as well as baptism, that pastor has a right to be called an evangelist.

That great church has prospered under his leadership. The Sunday School has run from 1100 to 1300 in attendance regularly. The auditorium proving too small in the old church, they have recently completed a magnificent auditorium seating approximately 2,000 people.

In addition to his duties as pastor, Dr. Hankins has gone afield repeatedly for revival campaigns in other churches and even in spiritually desolate mountain regions, sometimes winning as many as 200 souls in a two weeks' campaign. He has won souls in many states. I find there have been 2,092 professions of faith in Christ in his ministry outside the First Baptist Church.

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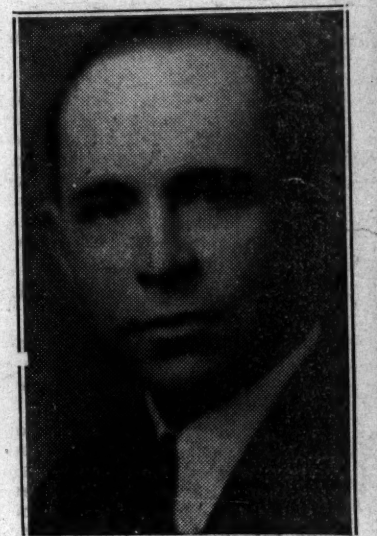
## A Charge Before God

I. A Solemn Charge; II. A Serious Mission; III. A Sacred Urgency

BY JOE H. HANKINS, D.D.

TEXT: II Tim. 4:1-2: "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

This, to me, is one of the most serious charges that you will find anywhere in the Book of God. It is especially serious in view of the fact that it comes from this great man of God, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as he stands in the shadow of death at the end of life's journey. He is an old man now. He has had years of experience as the apostle to the Gentiles and preacher of the gospel of God's grace. He has seen and witnessed the power of the gospel to break into heathenism of the rankest sort, to break hearts and touch lives; to transform whole cities and to bring thousands into the blessings of salvation and new life. He has also experienced many hardships. He has witnessed the power of God to open prison houses, to deliver from the lion's mouth, to save out of the perils of the sea, to keep under all sorts of conditions and circumstances. Now as he stands in the shadow of death, he is pouring out his very soul in a passionate plea to a young preacher and to all Christian workers. He is viewing the task now in the light of the death chamber, in the light of the judgment seat of Christ and in the light of the end of all things when the Lord shall come and set up his kingdom and mount the throne of His glory and call His servants to whom he has delivered his talents to give an account of their stewardship. Paul is looking now at the task of the Christian worker in the light of those three great events. Let me repeat. He is seeing the task in the light of the death chamber. He is seeing now the servant standing before his Lord. He is seeing the crown for some of them held in the nail-scarred hand, a crown of righteousness for those who have fought the good fight, who have kept the faith, who have finished the course. He is seeing himself, along with all the saints of God, standing now before the judgment seat of Christ, when the trumpet of the ages has sounded and the angel stands with one foot on the land and one on the sea declares that time shall be no more. All of God's redeemed from Abel until the Lord's coming are standing in the white light of the judgment seat to give account of their stewardship. That is the reason I say the charge that he gives is of such



DR. JOE H. HANKINS

serious import. The Spirit of God possesses his soul and moves upon his mind and heart as he pours out his very soul in the most passionate plea of his life for faithfulness on the part of the servants of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Beloved things look very differently in the light of the death chamber to what they did in ordinary circumstances of life. Men become much more serious when they know that they are facing the inevitable hour and they evaluate things differently to what they have before. I would to God that, in the midst of life while we are in the prime of strength, every child of God could view his task

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## A FINE TRACT FOR CATHOLICS

Rev. William J. Fox, pastor of the Galilee Baptist Church in Chicago, has written a specially fine tract for Catholics. It is headed *MARY, THE MOTHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST*. On the cover of the tract is a picture representing the Virgin Mary. Then under the picture are two scriptures, Luke 1:28 and Luke 8:21, copied from the Douay Version of the Bible, which is specially translated and used by Catholics. Inside the tract is a very kindly and fine word about the high honor that is given to Mary as the mother of our Lord, as a pure and virtuous woman, but it is stated that Mary, this wonderful and earnest good woman, is not to be worshipped and cannot save us. Then is given, page after page, two parallel columns, one giving statements of the Roman Catholic Church about Mary and side by side with it, in the parallel column what the Word of God says about Christ, showing that in each case Catholics have put Mary instead of Christ, and that Christ alone can save.

The strength of this tract is in the following points:

1. It deals very kindly and fairly with Catholics, quoting from the

(Continued on page four)

IF PEOPLE WON'T GO TO CHURCH  
THE CHURCH MUST GO TO THEM



## Evangelist Appelman Reports

"Sept. 1, 1942

"God be eternally praised! There were 142 actual conversions and additions in Enid, Oklahoma, and many over 100 in the week in Grace Chapel, Philadelphia.

"Pray for us hard in Cleveland, Ohio.

"Hyman J. Appelman  
Hotel Cleveland"  
I Thess. 1:2, 3.



## THE SCARLET SIN — ADULTERY

(Continued from page one)

Peter used sharp, plain words that cut people to the heart, why should not honest preachers today be as plain and direct in dealing with the Word of God and sin?

And besides, I remind you that all these matters are dealt with in the secular press. Yesterday's newspaper told of the closing of the red-light district in Evansville, Indiana, by army order, of the rounding up of prostitutes, of tests for venereal disease. Picture shows deal with the problem and glorify sex. Cheap "pulp" magazines revel in "true confession" in sex crimes, and love triangles. There are some good books read by many intelligent people, written by doctors and scientists on sex questions. Sociologists study the evils connected with sex very frankly and seek remedies. Laws are passed, censorship imposed on filthy pictures and filthy literature. If sex matters are common talk everywhere, then why under Heaven should there not be somebody who could speak with a voice of authority — the authority of God's Word — on these questions? And so, by God's grace, I seek to enlighten, to warn, to show the way to victory, the way to mercy and peace, and the way of salvation for sinners.

I give this message in print in response to the requests of many, many people who have heard me preach upon the subject. As God has blessed such plain preaching before to the warning of the innocent and the convicting of the guilty, and the leading of many to repentance and salvation, so, I pray, may He use this message.

### Sex Is God-Given; Marriage Is Holy and Clean

"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4).

Marriage is properly called "holy matrimony." God Himself made man and woman, male and female, made them one for the other, and gave them the mating instinct. When God first put Adam in the Garden of Eden, God made him with a need for a wife. Genesis 2, verses 18, 21-25 tells us of the first marriage, where God Himself performed the only ceremony there was and the angels of God were the only witnesses!

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."....

"And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

"And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

"And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

"And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." —Genesis 2:18, 21-25.

We are plainly told that God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone," and God Himself presented Adam with his bride. It was God that made them one, not only one in spirit and mind, but one in flesh. Their bodies were made the one for the other, just as their natures were made each to supplement the other. And then the Lord tells us, "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed."

These holy creatures that knew

nothing of sin, and were as pure as the angels of God, were mated. And even while they were in the Garden of Eden we are told, "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28). Mating, with these perfect creatures, was not only permitted; it was plainly commanded. So marriage is a divine institution. Sex is as natural and right and as holy as any physical and mental and spiritual quality of man.

Satan has tried to defile the thoughts of the whole race about marriage and mating. Whispered, dirty comments; chalked, vulgar words on back fences, the snickers of lewd people over dirty jokes, the embarrassed silence of good people — these have all left the impression that sex matters are all vile, that mating is naturally and inevitably wicked. There is even a foolish theory that the sin by which Adam and Eve fell was the marriage relationship, despite the fact that the Lord expressly commanded Adam and Eve to mate and multiply, and despite the fact that the particular sin by which they fell is mentioned and it could not possibly be a sex matter. Not long ago I read a tract, published by the leader of a modern cult, demanding sex abstinence altogether on the part of married Christians. That is unscriptural, foolish, sinful!

In Hebrews 13:4 is this plain statement: "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." There is nothing wrong with marriage. There is nothing unclean or sinful about the marriage bed and the marriage relationship. There is nothing innately sinful about sex. But a perversion, a misuse of sex relationship is wicked, so that "whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."

The loving mating of a husband and wife is as normal, as proper and as guiltless as eating, drinking, sleeping, or any other normal bodily function. One can sin by eating, but eating is not a sin. One could eat stolen food, and that would be wicked; and it is likewise wicked for a man to take another man's wife or another man's future wife. In the Ten Commandments God puts coveting your neighbor's wife along with the sin of coveting your neighbor's ox, (Ex. 20:17). It is not wrong to have your own wife, nor is it wrong to have your own ox. It is sinful to have or covet either that does not belong rightfully to you.

God puts no restraint on the marriage relationship. First Corinthians 7:3-5 says, "Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency." And then the next verse says that this separation for a short time of the husband and wife by consent that they might give themselves to fasting and prayer is permitted, but is not commanded.

Nothing could be clearer from this Scripture than that the marriage relationship is intended to be an act of love in which the husband seeks to please the wife and the wife seeks to please the husband, and neither counts the body his or her own. The only proper restraint on the marriage relationship implied here would be such moderation and temperance as would make for happiness and health, and spiritual prosperity.

There is not even a hint in the Bible that the marriage relationship was given only for procreation. Marriage is for the procreation of the race, but it is also for mutual love and comfort and happiness.

Therefore, as we enter into a study of the scarlet sin, adultery, let no one feel that his or her sex instincts are naturally wicked. They are not. And it is proper for earnest Christian people and other decent and intelligent people to study this matter with a wholesome interest, trying to find the will of God and the way of happiness.

Any perversion and misuse of sex is sin, but the sex equipment and sex instincts of men and women are a part of God's good creation. We should think about such matters reverently and prayerfully, and we should take these gifts from God as holy gifts to be properly enjoyed and used, and to be reverently protected from defilement and sin.

### God's Measure of the Terrible Wickedness of Adultery

The scarlet sin is not a trivial sin. It is one of the most horrible sins against God. It is one of the most shocking crimes against mankind.

By considering some Bible statements we will see how God regards this sin of adultery. Five Bible evidences show it to be a most wicked sin, deserving the severest punishment of an angry God and outraged society.

1. *Adultery is forbidden in the Ten Commandments.* Remember there were only ten of these commandments which summed up all the law of God. Four of them dealt with one's duty to God. Only six of them were required to sum up all a human being's duty to his fellow men. And one of these six commandments is the command in Exodus 20:14, "Thou shalt not commit adultery."

This command is immediately preceded by the command, "Thou shalt not kill." In God's sight adultery ranks along with murder, one of the most horrible sins and one which is as strictly forbidden as murder.

2. *God commanded the death penalty for adultery.* In Leviticus 20:10 the Lord commands, "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." Again in Deuteronomy 22:22 we are told, "If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, both the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel." And the following verses demand the death penalty for the scarlet sin if the woman involved is engaged to another man. Other scriptures command the death penalty for sodomy and for sex sins with beasts.

Remember that the death penalty, under God's law, was only given for the most horrible crimes. The death penalty is given today only for murder, for treason and in a few cases for rape or kidnapping and such crimes. But God commanded, and often had His command enforced, that the adulterer and adulteress should surely be put to death. That is part of God's measure of the wickedness of adultery. Adultery is wicked like murder and treason!

3. *The scarlet sin is the only scriptural ground for a divorce.* Everywhere in the New Testament divorce is discouraged. Jesus named only one sin that permitted the breaking of the marriage by divorce. In Matthew 19:9 He said, "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery." The word fornication here comes from the same root, in the Greek, as the words for harlot and whoremonger. The only difference between fornication and adultery is that fornication, that is harlotry or whoremongering, seems a more deliberate or repeated indulgence in the sin. It is the same scarlet sin, and a divorce is not allowed "except it be for fornication," said Jesus.

Drunkenness is not a sufficient reason for divorce. If a husband comes home drunk, beats his wife, wastes the money so that there is no food and insufficient clothes, and makes a Hell of the home, still that wife does not have a right, according to the Bible, to a divorce.

Or if either mate shall desert the other, without rhyme or reason, yet God does not permit a divorce. If a man's wife commits murder, still he does not have a right to divorce her. If a husband is sentenced to the penitentiary, state laws may allow a divorce, but God's law does not.

Even insanity is not mentioned in the Bible as a proper ground for divorce.

Any divorce that is granted for

any reason "except it be for fornication," is an unscriptural divorce in God's sight; and if either party marries after any divorce except for fornication, that party commits adultery.

So horrible is this sin in God's sight that it is the only one for which He allows a marriage to be broken.

4. *Venereal disease, the physical plague God puts on those who commit the scarlet sin is a loathsome and dreaded disease.* Syphilis is almost never caught except in the sex relationship. It is spread almost entirely by the social sin. Syphilis often results in death. It may lurk in the body for years after the victim thinks he has recovered and later cause locomotor ataxia, paralysis or insanity. It may affect the heart, cause brain lesions, and many other troubles which can never be traced. It often requires major operations on women, causes sterility, has made multiplied thousands of children blind from birth, and is blamed for the birth of afflicted and subnormal children. Gonorrhea, too, is a treacherous and dangerous and loathsome disease. These venereal diseases are said by historians to have caused the downfall of empires. Scientists say that the bones of the mummified Pharaohs discovered in Egypt show the marks of syphilis and thus explain the decay of the race and the downfall of Egypt. But these venereal diseases which God has put as a plague upon the scarlet sin show His holy indignation at this perversion of sex.

Alcoholic drink causes cirrhosis of the liver (hobnailed liver), enlarges the capillaries of the skin, enflames the lining of the stomach, weakens the lungs. Tobacco and dope habits have serious physical results. Over-eating may seriously shorten the life. Every kind of sin has some effect upon the body. But there is no kind of sin that has such a horrible physical curse upon it as the venereal disease curse God has set to show His displeasure with sex sin.

5. *Many Scriptures expressly say that adultery, fornication, the scarlet sin, leads to Hell.* Proverbs 7:27, speaking of the harlot, says, (Continued on page three)

## JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND THE MOVIES

The daily papers stated that federal officers arrested two boys in a town not far from Nashville and charged them with burglarizing a post office. One of the boys is twelve years of age and the other is nine, and the younger one is the leader, said the officers, of "the two-man gang." The younger one has been accused of more than thirty house-breaking jobs, and jail officials say that the nine-year-old has a criminal mind equal to a twenty-year-old law violator.

Now listen to the cause: The officers said both boys will do anything to get enough money to pay their way to a western or gangster movie. The authorities allow western and gangster movies to be shown, and perhaps a few church people have registered objections to such shows, and yet such shows created the gangster spirit in the boys. What is true in that town is true of many.

The American people ought to love boys better than shows, and authorities ought not, for the sake of a few movie dollars, jeopardize the morals of their youth. If the movies won't clean up, church people should unite to "clean them out" of the town.

— Cumberland Presbyterian

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## GIFTS ON GOSPEL BOOKLETS

The following gifts have come in during August for printing WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED? booklets (24-page sermon, pictured cover) particularly for use among soldiers and sailors, but also given away elsewhere as requests come.

Mr. R. G. Thumma, Pennsylvania.....	\$ .50
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Miss Dora Smith, Illinois.....	1.00
Mrs. Poser, No address.....	1.00

TOTAL IN AUGUST.....\$132.55

If you will help get out these booklets, will do the distribution carefully where they will be read, ask for the number you will use, tell how you will use them, and we will gladly send them as God supplies. Hundreds have claimed Christ through this message, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" They cost us about one cent each, \$1.00 a hundred for printing and mailing.

### THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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## First Army Chaplain Killed Helped Distribute "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

The United Press, August 25th, at an advanced Allied base in the Australian zone, told of the death of Lt. Albert O. Hart of Sheridan, Montana. He stayed behind when his unit moved to a new location, to deliver his regular Sunday sermon to the remaining group, and was killed later when his plane crashed carrying him to the new camp.

Commanding officer of the Alabama unit, with which he had served, said, "Hart was the finest chaplain I have ever known. The boys idolized him, and he did wonders with morale. It's tough that such a fine man must die." Lt. Hart was a former infantry officer, had attended University of Wyoming, the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Chicago, and had received a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Columbia University.

Our records show that Chaplain Albert O. Hart was at the army base in Gunter Field, Alabama, before going to Australia. There, at his request, we sent him two shipments of the little booklet by Editor John R. Rice, entitled, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" We have forgotten how many were mailed the first time. Three thousand copies were sent the second time. And these were given out to his men, before this Godly chaplain met death in the Australian zone.

Who knows but what maybe scores have been saved or will be saved through those booklets given out by Chaplain Hart? Now he is gone, and we hope others will take his place in helping get this 24-page, attractive pictured booklet on the plan of salvation, into the hands of soldiers, sailors, marines, and air corps.

We will be glad to mail free copies to anyone on request, a sample for yourself or a good number to give to others, provided you give them out prayerfully to those who promise to read them. The printing and mailing cost to us is about a penny a copy, or about \$1.00 a hundred. We are trying to distribute a million copies this year. Are you doing your part? Write for copies to

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## A Charge Before God

(Continued from page one)

and evaluate things as he does in the end of the way. For if he has put the wrong value on things prior to that, it is too late then to see the true value. When we view life and its responsibility and things of the earth in the light of the death chamber many things that have seemed mighty important to us here will look very differently then. Things of the earth fade away and lose their importance.

I shall never forget one afternoon when I was pastor in a little Texas town. I had just started out in my ministry. It was my first full-time pastorate. The chairman of my board of deacons lived right across the alley from the pastor's home. When I moved on the field this deacon was in bed with a very bad heart attack. For several weeks he stayed in bed with this heart ailment. When spring came I was in my garden planting some vegetables and he came walking across the alley, pale and trembling and weak — walking with a stick. I had a wooden box at the end of the row under a shade tree. He walked over and sat down on that box. I walked over and sat on the ground beside the box to talk with him. After we had talked about thirty minutes he said, "Pastor, I wish you would pray that God would let me live a little while longer. I am nearing my sixtieth year and I have given all my life up till now for the things of this world. I have accumulated a fortune. I expect I am worth two hundred and fifty thousand dollars today." (His estate when he died was appraised at around three hundred thousand dollars.) "But," said he, "Pastor, as I stand where I am today, in the shadow of death, I would give everything that I possess if I could have seen the values of life back yonder thirty years ago like I see them now. Pastor, my plea to you to pray for me that I may live a few years longer is that I may somehow make amends for having put all my effort and time on material things to the neglect of things that are eternal. I know I am saved, but if I have to go to meet God now, I am going absolutely empty-handed, and I do not want to go like that. I have wasted my life. Men have said I am a success, but I am a miserable failure. For all I have can be counted in dollars and cents and they don't mean anything when I stand face to face with death."

There under the shade of that tree beside that box that deacon fell on his knees, and he and I talked to the Lord, and his new pastor poured out his soul in a plea to God to hear the cry of this man's heart. He began to pray, "O God, if you will give me another chance, I will do something with my life and with what you have placed in my hands other than live for self and things of this world." Three days from that time he had another heart attack. I went to his home, sat by his bed and watched him die. He said, "Pastor, I woke up too late." O beloved, the plea of the heart of Paul to young Timothy and to all Christian workers everywhere is to live for the Lord now. While you are in your youth; while you are in your strength; while life is before you, catch the right vision, get the right focal point, set your affections on things above, catch the right spirit and get in the right place. "I

charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom, preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."

There are three things in the text I want to mention briefly this morning: First, A solemn charge; second, a serious mission; third, a sacred urgency.

### I. A Solemn Charge

"I charge you before God," Christian workers everywhere, that, as you go about your task, to remember that you are under the all-seeing eye of God. Every day, every hour, every moment God is looking on. "Every thing is open and known," said Peter, "Before Him with whom we have to do."

That is the reason Job, when he was in such suffering, and his friends came and accused him of being a hypocrite, a liar and a swindler, and of having gotten rich off pilfering other people, could say, "My witness is in heaven." Those thrusts went like arrows right through the soul of that man of God. God had said that Job was "perfect and upright and one that feared God" and I tell you those are hard things to take from his bosom friends. His wife came and said, "Job, you ought to curse God and die." Listen to Job's answer, "Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high." What is he saying? He is saying that, while people have misunderstood and misinterpreted him, God knows and understands. "You haven't seen what is down in my heart, but God knows all about it." O I tell you, beloved, when a child of God is trying to do his best for Christ, trying to do His will, trying to live for His glory and the world despises him and lies on him, and has unkind, cutting things to say — sometimes his own brethren have unkind, hurtful things to say — they drive a sword through his very soul, it is a wonderful consolation to know that God knows all about his heart. God knows all about the battles in his soul that the world knows nothing about.

Listen, it is not only a great consolation to the child of God who is trying to do his best for God, but oh what a solemn warning for that Christian who is playing at the task! Beloved, there are thousands today who are playing at the greatest task on earth, the task of witnessing for Christ, living and bearing fruit for Christ, producing a life that will glorify Him and testify of His grace to a lost and dying world. I tell you it is a solemn warning from this old man of God when he says, "I charge before God." You may be able to fool your pastor or your Sunday school superintendent; you may be able to deceive your class and your church, but if you are holding out on God and playing at the task, wasting your time and substance and throwing your life away, He knows all about it. One of these days you are going to have to stand before Him "who shall judge the living and the dead at his appearing" and He is going to ask you to give an account of your stewardship.

### II. A Serious Mission

It is not only a solemn charge, but it is a serious mission on which we are sent. Listen, "I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing: preach the word." Give this lost dying world the Word of God. We are the only channels through which God can give it. That com-

(Continued on page four)

## Children's Tract Free

The little tract, "Wuggins," the story of a lamb that was lost, is good for children. The Gospel Fellowship, P. O. Box 61, Salina, Kansas, distributes them free. Write card or letter saying how many you can use.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

—Philippians 4:8, 9

## THE SCARLET SIN — ADULTERY

(Continued from page two)

"Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death." The house of the prostitute is the way to Hell!

Again in Proverbs 9, verses 13-17, we are told how a foolish, sinful woman sits at the door of her house and calls to men, enticing them to come to her. But Proverbs 9:18 says, "But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell." The guests of the harlot woman go to Hell!

In I Corinthians 6:9, 10 is another such plain word. Those verses say: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

Notice that "neither fornicators . . . nor adulterers . . . nor abusers of themselves with mankind . . . shall inherit the kingdom of God." If fornicators and adulterers and sodomites cannot inherit the kingdom of God, then that means that their souls are lost forever.

Ephesians 5:5 says, "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." This is simply another statement that the whoremonger has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Again, in the book of Revelation we are told of the wonderful city of God where "there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Rev. 21:4). But in the same chapter we are told, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall

have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

"Whoremongers," says the Scripture, "shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

And then after a further description of the beautiful city, of the river of life and of the tree of life which bare twelve manner of fruits, and of the throne of God and of the Lamb that shall be in it, so that there is no need of candle nor sun in that blessed city; then we are told in Revelation 22:15, "For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie." Whoremongers, says the Word of God, are left outside the beautiful city of Heaven!

These Scriptures above in six different places in the Bible teach that the scarlet sin leads to Hell. There is a way of forgiveness, as I shall later show; but evidently there are millions of people in Hell who went there because of the scarlet sin. And that shows how wicked is this sin, and how God hates it!

Summarizing, note these five things that show how horrible is the scarlet sin. Adultery is forbidden in the Ten Commandments along with murder. Adultery received the death penalty under Mosaic law. The scarlet sin is the only reason on which Jesus permits divorce in the New Testament. Venereal disease is God's loathsome punishment in the bodies of those who commit this sin. Many Scriptures say that the scarlet sin leads to Hell, that the whoremonger has no part in the kingdom of God!

Dear friend, in view of the horrible nature of this sin in God's pure eyes, how can you risk His wrath by committing it?

## For Soldier Boys! For Draftees!

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**CHAPTER I — WORLD-WIDE WAR — WILL AMERICA GET IN?** Written before Pearl Harbor but shows how clear was the author's understanding of what God would do. Overwhelming proof that war is the inevitable result of wide-spread sin and the special plague of God on nations that forget Him. Many, many Scriptures and a heart-stirring call to repentance. In Houston, Texas, one pastor had 7,000 copies of this chapter alone printed and spread, to help bring about a revival and turn people to God.

**CHAPTER II — WAR — SHOULD CHRISTIANS FIGHT?** The Bible background of Christian patriotism. Shows that Christians cannot ignore the bandit nations, godless Hitlers, murder of thousands, his lust for territory, his enslaving of nations; an answer to the Communists, the Federal Council of Churches, and the pacifists. War is horrible, but not as horrible as unrestrained sin! What young men do on this matter they ought not to do from hate but from profound conviction of duty. Clear Bible teaching on the road to unselfish and loving obedience to God and country. The Denver Bible Institute monthly magazine, *Grace and Truth*, says the book should be purchased if only for this chapter.

**CHAPTER III — WAR — UNIVERSAL HUMAN WICKEDNESS AND THE INEVITABLE COLLAPSE OF CIVILIZATION,** a strong sermon on the war as proof of sin and a call to repentance which God has used to save a number of souls.

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## A Charge Before God

(Continued from page three)

mand is not given to preachers only but to everyone that names the name of Christ. When they were scattered abroad at the persecution of Stephen we are told that they went everywhere preaching the Word. The preachers stayed home, but the rest of the crowd scattered like quail. The membership of the church went everywhere preaching the Word. You say, "God hasn't called me to preach." But God has called every child of God to be a witness. "Ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Preach the Word! Give the message of this book to the world. Give it even if they don't like it. Even if they do have "itching ears" for something else, give them the whole truth. I tell you there are a lot of things in the Bible the world doesn't like to hear. But the Holy Spirit says, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." All scripture, the Old as well as the New, is given by inspiration of God; it is all profit-

## Dr. Joe H. Hankins Becomes Evangelist

(Continued from page one)

tist Church in the last five years and three months. Many times he has had to refuse invitations. Mr. Sheriff of the Christian Business Men's Committee in Chicago told me recently that he had tried again and again to get Dr. Hankins but had been unable to get him to Chicago because of his heavy duties and many calls. Now, thank God, he will give his entire time to the broad field of evangelism.

Doctrinally Dr. Hankins is fundamentally sound, boldly proclaiming the great fundamentals of the Christian faith. He preaches on sin and on Hell, as well as on the love of God. He makes the plan of salvation plain. He preaches for Christians a separated life. He believes and preaches the premillennial coming of Christ.

However, Dr. Hankins is not primarily a Bible teacher but a great preacher, a soul winner. He is anointed of God and knows the power of the Holy Spirit. God has breathed on him! We predict that he will be used of God to win multiplied thousands of souls, if Jesus tarries a little while. How my heart rejoices that he is called into this blessed ministry.

Having for long years been a pastor, and eminently successful, he will know all the pastor's problems. His shepherd heart, his organizing ability, his constructive preaching have built his churches rapidly in his three fine pastorates down through the years.

I know without asking Dr. Hankins that he will not be commercial, that he will set no definite price on his ministry. I know that he is in the highest repute among Southern Baptists and will be commended by their leaders everywhere. And I would without an instant of hesitation recommend him to the strongest pulpits and the largest congregations in America. His Spirit-filled, heart-moving Bible preaching, his great compassion for sinners and his splendid success in gaining their ear and winning them will endear him to the best men of God and the strongest churches everywhere. He has university and seminary degrees, is a cultured gentleman, a cooperating brother and has a compassionate, compelling love for sinners.

Brother Hankins is 51, and at the height of his powers. His fine Christian family will back him in loving prayer. I know. Southern Baptists have given to the nation that widely used and greatly loved Jewish evangelist, Hyman Appelman. Now another Southern Baptist with similar doctrinal background and experience and with the same Spirit-filled urgency and power in his preaching is called out for evangelism. I trust that he will be kept busy from the very start. Dr. Hankins may be reached at Route 3, Pine Bluff, Arkansas. If brethren want to know more about him they may feel free to inquire of any Southern Baptist leader.

able. The world needs it all. Don't trim that message. Don't cut down anywhere whether they like it or not, whether it is pleasant or unpleasant. I tell you it isn't pleasant sometimes to go on the operating table and have the surgeon's knife applied, but sometimes it is the only thing that will do any good and it has to be done before you can be restored to your health. The thing that is causing the ailment must be cut out by the hand of the surgeon. Sometimes the word of God is like a knife, but thank God for it. For God is going after the cancer that is causing the spiritual sickness, trying to restore you to health spiritually. "Declare the whole counsel of God.... All Scripture is given by inspiration."

Beloved, God meant what He said in this Book when He tells us how a Christian ought to live. God's word teaches holiness. I know a lot of people don't like that and many try to shy around it, but just as certainly as this is the inspired Word of God, it teaches holiness. There is no use to try to shy around it and trim it down, God's word tells us to live completely separated lives. "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

Now, we can put on that sophisticated air and say, "I am going the be broad; I don't think because I am a Christian I ought to be narrow." But God's Book, God's way, and God's Word are narrow. God said, "Touch not the unclean thing." Because God's Word teaches that we will never be able to live above sin we get the idea that God has given us license to sin. God says that when we do sin He will lay the rod on, and God meant what He said. Paul, in writing to the church at Corinth, said that some of them were sick and some had died because of their disobedience. He also said in that connection, "If you judge yourself, then God will not have to do it. But if you refuse to judge yourself, then God will have to do it, and he will chasten you."

Beloved, God meant it when He said, "the tithe is the Lord's." "All Scripture (the Old Testament and the New) is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." God said when you take your tithe for yourself you are robbing God and the chastising rod of God is on you. God may not take your money, but God knows how to lay on the rod where it hurts most. If it hurts worse to take your money, God will take that, but if it hurts worse somewhere else God does that. Do not think you can do it and get away with it.

God meant what He said about hell and the awful picture He drew of the sinners doom awaiting him at the end of the journey. The most awful picture I ever read in my life is that picture God draws of the doom of a lost soul. Not a single one shall ever see inside the pearly gates. Not a one shall ever see eternal life. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." If a man is not born again he must die in his sins. Sinner friend, unless you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, you must die in your sins and go to hell "where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched.".... "Then shall he say unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.".... "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment.... and there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.".... "When the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: and he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Some people say that God will not send a sinner to hell. Yes He does. Don't soft-peddle this Book of God. Whenever a sinner hears the gospel preached and hears the call of salvation and hardens his heart and stiffens his neck there is nothing left for God to do but send him to hell. Hear it. "Bind him hand and foot and take him away." Some people say a sinner goes to hell of his own accord. Listen, he is "cast into hell, and there shall

be weeping and gnashing of teeth." "And the rich man died, and was buried, and in hell he lifted up his eyes in torments, and seeing Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue: for I am tormented in this flame."

### III. A Sacred Urgency

"Be instant in season, out of season." In view of these things I have just mentioned there is not a moment to lose. The servant of God is urged to be at the task all the time, "in season, out of season." In view of the fact that men are all lost without Christ, in view of the fact that hell is a reality, in view of the fact that not a single one can escape hell unless they are washed in the blood, we must give them this Word that is "living, powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword." We must tell people the truth even though we become unpopular by doing it. We must warn the people of God that they have to stand before the judgment seat of Christ. We must warn that man who has been saved and is wasting his life and influence that he is going to give an account to God. We must warn the Christian who is withholding his tithe — using it on himself and robbing God that he is going to have to account to God for every penny of it. We must tell the people of God that the blood of a lost world will be on our hands if we do not warn them and do our best to win them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

O when I stand in the presence of my Lord I do want to be able to say, like Paul, "I have fought a good fight." When I view my ministry in the light of the death chamber and in the white light of eternity and the judgment seat of Christ, my poor heart cries, Lord help me now while in the prime of my strength; help me today while the opportunity is here; help me now to get the right perspective and place the right emphasis where it ought to be. Help me to make my life count now as I will wish I had when I stand in the end of the way. I want to be able to say then, "I have finished my course; I have kept the faith." Then as I look over across the river I want to see a nail-scarred

### A Fine Tract

(Continued from page one)

Douay Version. Not a single unkind thing is said about Roman Catholics.

2. Instead of argument, the Word of God itself is compared with the statements of the Catholic Church, officially approved. It is proven that:

Mary is given the place belonging to Jesus Christ.

Mary is glorified more than Jesus Christ.

Mary is the Gate to Heaven instead of Jesus Christ.

Mary is given the power of Jesus Christ.

Mary is the Peace-maker, instead of Jesus Christ our Peace.

Mary is given the glory that alone belongs to Jesus Christ.

There follows some plain, kindly words, showing the Catholic tendency to introduce changes contrary to the Bible.

The tract has four pages, is well printed on nice paper in good type; is a folding tract.

Our dear Brother Fox is pastor of a church in the midst of a large Roman Catholic population. He says, "In United States alone there are more than 15,500,000 adult Roman Catholics and the church of Christ is doing practically nothing to win them to the Lord Jesus Christ. We have found our community largely Roman Catholic and many of them are inwardly hungering for something real upon which their spiritually-starved hearts can feed! I have therefore written this tract to help these poor people and to show them the way of life."

Brother Fox will send a sample copy of this tract to anyone who writes for it. I urge everyone who gives out tracts or who has some Catholic friends you might help to write for a sample of this tract. It may be bought for 25c per dozen, \$1.50 per hundred, postpaid. You may write Rev. William J. Fox, Post Office Box 488, Chicago, Ill. Brother Fox also has other fine tracts.

hand with a crown for me, that crown, "which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." "I charge thee therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season." There is no place to rest or let up, There is no place to quit. Souls are lost and hell is moving to meet them. "Hell hath enlarged herself at their coming." The wrath of God is upon them, and their blood will be upon our hands if we haven't been faithful to warn them, "in season and out of season"; whether we feel well or badly, whether the opportunity seems right or not.

I recently heard the severest indictment of a church that I ever heard in my life. A man who is now in his forties stood up to give a testimony and said, "I was not saved until I was twenty-five years old. I grew up in a certain church (he named the church) and went to Sunday School regularly. I started in the Cradle Roll and went through every department. I came to young manhood unsaved and went out into sin, giving the early part of my life to sin and the devil. At the age of ten I wanted to be saved more than anything on earth. The hand of God pressed in on my heart and the Holy Spirit called then. If my Sunday School teacher had laid his hand on my shoulder and spoken to me, I would have been saved. But not a single prayer was ever requested for me in that church. Never one time did I hear a prayer offered for my salvation. Not a deacon ever spoke to me about my soul. If I, like many

young people, had died in my sins, my blood would have been on the hands of the deacons, Sunday School teachers and membership of that church. But thank God I am saved, and my blood will not be on their hands, but somebody in that church is going to have to account to God for fifteen years of my life that I wasted — fifteen years that would have been given to Christ if somebody had cared enough about my soul to tell me about Jesus. "I charge thee before God" — Friend, this is the most serious business human hands ever engaged in and immortal souls are at stake — "Be instant in season and out of season." There is no time to rest, no time to let up, no place to quit, no ground on which we can possibly hope to justify ourselves for being at ease in Zion when a world is on fire, when millions are soon to be marched into death without God and without hope, when people are going to hell all around us and we have the only remedy. They are lost: life hangs by such a slender thread; they may be in hell tomorrow.

"O Zion haste, thy mission high fulfilling,  
To tell to all the world that God is light;  
That He who made all nations is not willing  
One soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Behold how many thousands still are lying  
Bound in the darksome prison house of sin,  
With none to tell them of the Saviour's dying  
Or of the life He died for them to win."

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